

1710.06 Groundwater Discharge Permits or Exemptions

Issued January 1, 1994

SUBJECT: Groundwater Discharge Permits or Exemptions.

APPLICATION: Executive Branch Departments and Sub-units that discharge a waste or wastewater into or onto the ground or groundwaters.

PURPOSE: To ensure that discharges of wastes or wastewaters to the ground or groundwaters do not degrade the groundwater and impair any use of the groundwater or otherwise cause harm to the environment or human health.

CONTACT AGENCY: Department of Natural Resources (DNR) - Waste Management, Groundwater Section.

TELEPHONE: 517/373-2730 or 517/373-8147

FAX: 517/373-4797

SUMMARY: Executive Branch Departments and Sub-units that discharge a waste or wastewater into or onto the ground or groundwaters must obtain a groundwater discharge permit or an exemption. When an application is received, DNR staff review the application and the hydrogeologic study for administrative and technical completeness. If the proposed discharge is permissible, DNR staff will draft a permit or exemption, provide public notice on the proposed decision, hold a public meeting or hearing if necessary and present the draft for a decision by the Water Resources Commission.

APPLICABLE FORMS: DNR Form PR4660, Groundwater Discharge Permit Application.
Permit Exemption Application.

PROCEDURES:

Agency:

- Telephones the Groundwater Section to request an application for a groundwater discharge permit (DNR Form PR4660), or an exemption.
- On receipt of the application form, fills it out per the attached instructions and sends it to the Groundwater Section (address is on the application).
- Submits to the Groundwater Section a hydrogeologic study as required by the Part 22 Rules of Water Resources Commission Act (Public Act 245 of 1929, as amended).

Groundwater Section:

- Within 30 working days of receipt of an application and hydrogeologic study, determines if the application is complete. If not, prepares and sends a deficiency letter.
 - When all information has been submitted, completes technical review and determines if proposed discharge is permissible. Within 180 days of receipt of a complete application, drafts a permit or exemption or a denial of the application.
- Public notices the proposed decision for 30 days. Holds a public meeting or hearing if there is sufficient interest.
- Takes a proposed decision to the Water Resources Commission, for a final decision at the next meeting following the end of the public comment period.

General Information:

- Total processing time is 90-360 days, depending on the complexity of the issues and the adequacy of the information submitted by the applicant.

- Agencies which need more detailed information should request copies of the Groundwater Discharge Permit Process Handbook and the Hydrogeologic Study Handbook.

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